



Computing Research Association

Programmatic Executive Summaries

FEBRUARY 2025

UNITING INDUSTRY, ACADEMIA, AND GOVERNMENT TO ADVANCE COMPUTING RESEARCH AND CHANGE THE WORLD.



CRA

Computing Research
Association

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Computing Community Consortium (CCC)

<https://cra.org/ccc/>



CCC

Computing Community Consortium
Catalyst

Mission: To enable the pursuit of innovative, high-impact computing research that aligns with pressing national and global challenges.

Recent Highlights:

Released a [Call for Nominations for CCC Council Members](#)

Visioning workshop (report in progress):

- [Supporting At-Risk Users through Responsible Computing](#) in Washington, DC on December 9-10, 2024. 54 participants.

CCC Quadrennial Papers:

- Setting a Course for Post-Moore Software Performance
- The Post Quantum Cryptography Transition: Making Progress, But Still a Long Road Ahead
- Imperative for Educating the Next Generation Robotics Technology Workforce
- Lessons for Cybersecurity from the American Public Health System
- Prioritizing Computing Research to Empower and Protect Vulnerable Populations
- Enabling the AI Revolution in Healthcare
- Which Humans? Inclusivity and Representation in Human-centered AI

Visioning reports released:

- [Future of Information Retrieval Research in the Age of Generative AI](#)

Best Practices Memo released:

- [Catalyzing Interdisciplinary Computing Research: Best Practices for Researchers](#)

RFI Responses submitted:

- [CCC's response to the Defense Industrial Base Adoption of Artificial Intelligence for Defense Applications: Notice of Availability.](#)
- [CCC's response to NITRD Request for Information on Digital Twins Research and Development.](#)
- [CCC's response to Request for Comments on the U.S. Artificial Intelligence Safety Institute's Draft Document: Managing Misuse Risk for Dual-Use Foundation Models.](#)
- [Request for Information on the CHIPS and Science Act Section 10343. Research Ethics.](#)
- [Request for Information \(RFI\) on National Science Board-National Science Foundation Merit Review Commission Review of NSF's Merit Review Policy and Processes.](#)
- [Notice of Request for Information \(RFI\) on Frontiers in AI for Science, Security, and Technology \(FASST\) Initiative.](#)
- [Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Request for Information on a National Plan for Cyber-Physical Systems Resilience.](#)

What's Coming:

CCC Symposia:

- CIFellows Symposium: February 20-21, 2025
- CCC Computing Research Symposium: Addressing National Priorities: May 15-16, 2025

Visioning workshops:

- Planned:
 - [Grand Challenges for the Convergence of Computational and Citizen Science Research:](#) April 8-9, 2025
 - [Next Steps in Neural Interfaces: Defining the Role of Computing Research:](#) April 22-23, 2025

Center for Evaluating the Research Pipeline (CERP)

cra.org/cerp



CERP

Computing Research Association
Evaluation

Mission:

To increase diversity in the field of computing research through evaluation and research.

Advisory Board

- Dorian Arnold, Emory University
- Carla Corroto, Otterbein University
- Wendy DuBow, National Center for Women in Technology (NCWIT)
- Ann Gates, University of Texas - El Paso, Computing Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institutions (CAHSI)
- Kinnis Gosha, Morehouse College, Institute for African American Mentoring in Computing Science (iAMMCS)
- Ran Libeskind-Hadas, Claremont McKenna College
- Kathryn McKinley, Google
- Sepi Hejazi Moghadam, Google
- Christine Ong, University of California Los Angeles, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing (CRESST)
- Gary Silverstein, WeStat

CRA Staff Leader

- Burçin Campbell, Director of Data and Evaluation

Recent Highlights

- [CERP NSF Cooperative Agreement](#) plans were developed and submitted to NSF. Three plans were required by the programmatic terms and conditions: Key Personnel Plan, Evaluation Plan, Communications and Outreach Plan
- CERP Advisory Board had its first two meetings (virtually) focusing on getting started on the CERP Advisory Board, how to structure the Board, plans for evaluating CERP's performance, and discussions on future directions for CERP.
- [Data Buddies Survey](#) (DBS) is set to close January 28, 2024. As of the writing of this report DBS received over 25,000 raw responses from a total of 119 departments.
- [CISE REU Evaluation](#) project updated its reporting protocol to deliver more timely reports to REU PIs. Two rounds of PI reports were delivered in 2024.
- The newly redesigned [BPCnet.org](#) was launched. CERP is currently focusing on advertising and community outreach.

What's Coming Up

- First annual evaluation of CERP by the Advisory Board will take place in March/April 2025. The results of this evaluation will be submitted to NSF as part of the cooperative agreement requirements.
- Content expansion for BPCnet.org will continue to add additional resources based on the outcomes of CERP's current outreach efforts.
- CERP will continue working dissemination and outreach efforts adding new types of blog posts, research and evaluation products, and communications with all stakeholders.
- Evaluation of programs and events from CRA Committees, REUs, and external partners will continue.
- CERP will be hosting BPC Community Forums and attending BPC Accelerator meetings.

Computing Research Association - Education (CRA-E)

cra.org/cra-e



CRA-E

Computing Research Association
Education

Mission: To address society's need for a continuous supply of talented and well-educated computing researchers.

Leadership:

- Michael Hilton, Carnegie Mellon University, Co-Chair
- Kelly Shaw, Williams College, Co-Chair
- Erik Russell, CRA Director of Educational Initiatives / CRA-E Director

Recent Highlights:

- [CSGrad4US Fellowship & Mentoring Program](#) – There are currently 113 NSF CSGrad4US Fellows enrolled in CISE Ph.D. programs. Another 9 have been accepted into CISE Ph.D. programs and deferred their start until Fall 2025. The Fall 2024 Mentoring Program participants have applied to Ph.D. programs and are awaiting results, and applications are currently being accepted until May 31 for the 2025 CSGrad4US program. In September, the NSF CSGrad4US Fellowship and Mentoring Program was featured at the "Empowering the AI Talent of Today and Tomorrow: NSF Investments in AI Education and Development" event. The event, co-hosted by the House and Senate AI Caucuses, emphasized the importance of AI education for the future workforce.
- [UR2PhD – Undergraduate Research to PhD National Mentoring](#) – In addition to offering instances of the undergraduate research training and graduate student mentoring training courses this summer and fall, UR2PhD hosted two bridge workshop webinar series: the Computing Research Engagement & Awareness Workshop and the Graduate School Application Workshop. During the summer and fall, 233 students (who were mentored by 54 faculty members) engaged in UR2PhD courses, and 130 students participated in its workshops. UR2PhD also submitted two \$1M proposals to Google, which have now been awarded, to sustain and expand UR2PhD initiatives through Dec. 2026.
- [CRA Outstanding Undergraduate Research Awards](#) – With the generous sponsorship of Sandia National Labs and Lawrence Berkeley National Labs, the 2024/25 competition increased the number of students recognized to eight winners, eight runners-up, 24 finalists, and 171 honorable mentions.
- [CRA-E Faculty Mentoring Award](#) – The committee is currently reviewing 15 nominations this year and expects to make award decisions in the coming weeks.
- [Undergraduate Research Highlights](#) – The research highlights series showcases outstanding research conducted by undergraduate students, one highlight approximately every month (10 per year) written by CRA-E Graduate Fellows.

What's Coming:

- [SIGCSE Workshop on Professional Development for Teaching Faculty - Feb. 26, 2025](#) – The Professional Development Pre-Symposium for Teaching-Track Faculty is a one-day event designed for teaching-track faculty and graduate students and postdocs interested in teaching-track positions. It includes sessions on professional development, including strategies on promotion and advancement, and networking opportunities.
- Graduate School Admission Data Survey Project - CRA-E and CERP are developing a survey to better understand the criteria used by graduate programs for evaluating and admitting PhD candidates. They plan to administer the survey in 2025.

Computing Research Association - Industry (CRA-I)

<https://cra.org/industry/>



CRA-I

Computing Research Association
Industry

Mission: To convene industry partners on computing research topics of mutual interest and connect them with CRA's academic and government constituents for mutual benefit and improved societal outcomes.

Highlights

- Expanded the **CRA-I Council** to 14 members by welcoming Hector Gonzalez (SpiNNcloud), Bruce Hendrickson (Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory), and Ronak Shah (NVIDIA).
- Hosted a **Meet and Greet** and an **Industry Lunch** for over 50 attendees at the CRA Conference at Snowbird (see picture above).
- Secured an **NSF subaward** on the **Future of Enterprise/Cloud Storage Technologies and Cybersecurity** to interview enterprise and cloud cybersecurity and storage leaders and identify key practical challenges in these research areas.
- Organized and hosted the **Sharing Healthcare Data Workshop** on October 17-18, 2024, in Washington, DC, with over 30 participants representing academia, industry, and government.
- Analyzed over 2,000 responses from the **Practitioner to Professor (P2P) Survey** and developed a key summary report.
- Developed a white paper outlining the **CRA/CRA-I Value Proposition to Industry** to share with the broader community.
- Launched a new working group, **Research in a Box**, aimed at helping industrial organizations enhance their capabilities for research and collaboration.

What's Coming

- The **Dual Appointment Working Group** is building on the outcomes of their session at the CRA Conference at Snowbird and the Spring 2024 survey to develop a comprehensive report.
- Expanding the **P2P Summary** into a detailed, full-length report to share with the community.
- Drafting the final report from the **Sharing Healthcare Data Workshop**.
- Planning a Spring 2025 workshop on the **Breadth of Partnership Practices in Fostering Academia-Industry Relationships**.
- Developing a comprehensive report based on interviews with enterprise and cloud cybersecurity and storage leaders, conducted under the **Future of Enterprise/Cloud Storage Technologies and Cybersecurity** project.
- Exploring the creation of a **CRA-Industry Forum** in Summer 2025 to showcase key areas of focus and progress for the industry research community.

Computing Research Association - Widening Participation (CRA-WP)

<https://cra.org/cra-wp>



CRA-WP

Computing Research Association
Widening Participation

Mission: To widen the participation and improve the access, opportunities, and positive experiences of individuals from populations underrepresented in computing research and education).

Leadership

- Susan Rodger, Duke University, CRA-WP Co-Chair
- Soha Hassoun, Tufts University, CRA-WP Co-Chair

CRA Staff Leader

- Curtis Cain, Director of Broadening Participation in Computing (BPC) Initiatives

Recent Highlights

- The CRA-WP NSF BPC-AE Computing Research Pathways at Scale proposal has been funded for \$5.2 million over the next five years.
- 38 participants and 21 mentors participated in the 2024 DREU program.
- Sophia Shao, Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences at the University of California, Berkeley, received the 2024 Anita Borg Early Career Award.
- Martez Mott, Senior Researcher in the Ability group and Human-Centered AI Experiences team at Microsoft Research received the 2024 Skip Ellis Early Career Award.
- CRA-WP presented a session at the Tapia conference in September 2024 on Effective Programs for Increasing Diversity in Computing: Learning and Engaging.
- CRA-WP conducted outreach at the Tapia conference in September 2024.
- CRA-WP CERP Evaluator Eniola Idowu moderated the session “Integrating Diversity, Social Justice, and Intersectionality in Program Evaluation to Broaden Participation in Computing (BPC): Insights from BPC Alliance Representatives” at the Tapia Conference in September 2024.
- CRA-WP conducted outreach at the Grace Hopper Celebration in October 2024.
- CRA-WP ran a 6-week Career Mentoring Webinar Series from Oct-Nov. 2024, open to computing researchers in industry, government labs, and academia who have previously attended a CMW.

What's Coming

- NSF CRA-WP DREU 2025 applications are open. 98 Early Applicants; 79 General Applications and still counting! February 25th deadline.
- Participation certifications for participants have been launched in collaboration with the CRA Communications Team.
- CRA-WP will continue to collaborate with CRA-E on CSGrad4US and UR2PhD and will continue participating in the CRA program LEVEL UP, which is in collaboration with ACM and IEEE-CS.
- CRA-WP 2025 Spring Board meeting will be held in Denver, CO, preceding Grad Cohort.
- CRA-WP will host a co-located Grad Cohort for Women and Grad Cohort for IDEALS in Hilton Denver City Center, April 3-5, 2025.
- CRA-WP will attend the ACM SIGSCE Technical Symposium on February 26 - March 01, 2025, and the 2025 Annual Convention of the National Society of Black Engineers in Chicago, on March 5 - 9, 2025.

Government Affairs Committee

cra.org/govaffairs/blog



Mission: The Government Affairs Committee (GAC) serves as the U.S. computing research community's representatives in Washington, D.C., conveying the importance of government support for computing research; tracking and influencing relevant science policy and legislation; and helping engage members of the computing research community in the policymaking process.

Highlights

- **Fiscal Year 2025 Federal Budget & Transition to Trump Administration:** CRA is closely monitoring actions around the [FY25 Federal Budget](#) and the transition to the second Trump Administration. Just before the end of 2024, [Congress passed a continuing resolution](#) to fund federal agencies till March 14th at the previous year's funding levels. However, final funding levels for research agencies are uncertain at this time. Additionally, the Trump transition team announced that Michael Kratsios would be nominated as the Director of OSTP, and that computer scientist Lynne Parker would serve as counselor to Kratsios and executive director of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST). Additional [high level White House technology and innovation staff](#) were also announced. This is an encouraging development, as both Kratsios and Parker are well known to the computing research community, and this news comes much sooner than it did in the first Trump Administration. The announcement also makes clear that artificial intelligence and blockchain technology will be important policy priorities of the incoming administration.
- **Joint Letter of CRA Professional Societies to Congressional Leadership:** [In September](#), six leading organizations — AAI, ACM, CRA, IEEE-USA, SIAM, and USENIX — representing more than 400,000 people in computing, information technology, science, and innovation across US industry, academia, and government, joined together to call on Congressional leaders of both parties to fully fund the research agencies contained in the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022. You can read the letter [here](#).

What's Coming

- **Leadership in Science Policy Institute (LiSPI):** GAC is planning to hold its biannual [LiSPI workshop](#) in Washington DC in either late 2025 or early 2026. The workshop is part of CRA's mission to develop the next generation of leaders in the computing research community by educating researchers on how science policy in the U.S. is formulated and how our government works; the last one was held in [November 2024](#). We are tentatively planning to issue a call for nominations in late-spring, with the application deadline in early summer, and final selection of participants by late-summer.